

**BEFORE THE NATIONAL GREEN TRIBUNAL
SOUTHERN ZONE AT CHENNAI.**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 133 of 2020 (SZ)

Tribunal on its own motion-SUO MOTU

Based on the News item in Dinamalar Newspaper,

Chennai edition dated 23.07.2020,

“Panic due to Gas released out for 15 ft height from the pipeline of Natural Gas Company”.

Vs

The Chief Secretary to Government of Tamil Nadu,

Govt. Secretariat, Fort St. George,

Chennai, Tamil Nadu -600 009 and 22 others.

...Respondent(s)

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Advocate

Thiru.S. Sai Sathya Jith,

Advocate, Chennai.

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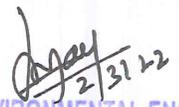
...Respondent(s)

REPORT FILED ON BEHALF OF THE 6TH RESPONDENT
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD

I, R. Vijayabaskaran, Son of E. Rathinam, Hindu, aged about 59 years, having my office at No.76, Mount Salai, Guindy, Chennai- 600 032, do hereby solemnly affirm and sincerely state as follows:

1. I am the Additional Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai-32, and I am filing this Report on behalf of the 6th Respondent, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board and as such I am well acquainted with the facts of the case as per the records.

2. It is respectfully submitted that the Hon'ble National Green Tribunal (Southern Zone) in its order dated 13.09.2021 has directed as follows :


ADDL. CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
 No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
 CHENNAI-600 032.

“The Learned Counsel appearing for State as well as Pollution Control Board submitted that if some time is granted they may be able to come with the action taken report, if any, on the basis of the recommendations made by the Joint Committee in this regard”.

3. It is respectfully submitted that, the respondent unit of M/s GAIL (India) Limited, S.F.No.391/6 (Part), Palayapalyam Village, Sirkali Taluk, Mayiladuthurai District has established and commissioned a natural gas dispatch terminal with pipeline connectivity from this terminal to M/s GAIL Cauvery basin pipeline Network at Sectionalizing Valve (SV) Station, Memathur Village, Tharangambadi Taluk, Mayiladuthurai District without prior Consent of the Board.

4. It is respectfully submitted that the unit was previously inspected on 25.02.2021 and noticed that it was under operation without consent of the TNPC Board and also not obtained Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) clearance for laying of pipeline of 0.255 kms in the CRZ area. Hence, the TNPC Board, Chennai has issued direction to the unit M/s GAIL (India) Limited under section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1974, as amended and under section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 as amended that “The unit shall not commission its activities without obtaining consent of the Board” vide proceeding dated 18.03.2021. Failure to comply with the above said direction will lead to issue of further directions for the closure and stoppage of power supply under section 33A of the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act

May 2/3/21
ADDL. CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

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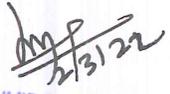
1974, as amended and under section 31A of the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act 1981 as amended.

5. It is respectfully submitted that, meanwhile, the unit had applied for Consent to Operate Direct to the Board and the unit's application was returned for want of CRZ Clearance from the competent Authority.

6. It is further submitted that the unit vide its letter dated 08.09.2021 has requested the TNPC Board to issue permission to operate with minimum gas flow of less than 10 % to maintain the system equipment's healthiness and their integrity.

In this regard, the unit has not furnished CRZ clearance from the competent authority and unit can be permitted to operate only after obtaining the consent to operate. Accordingly, the TNPC Board vide letter dated 07.01.2022 has instructed not to operate the unit of M/s GAIL (India) Limited without obtaining consent of the TNPC Board and stick on to the directions already issued by the Board vide proceeding dated 18.03.2021. So far, the respondent unit has not resubmitted the application for consent along with CRZ clearance.

Under the above circumstances, it is humbly prayed that this Hon'ble National Green Tribunal may be pleased to pass such further or other orders as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstance of this case and thus render justice.


ADDL. CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 080
BEFORE ME

VERIFICATION

I, R. Vijayabaskaran, Son of E. Rathinam, working as Joint Chief Environmental Engineer, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, do hereby verify that the contents of above report are true to the best of my knowledge through records.

[Signature]
23/12/22
ADDL. CHIEF ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER
TAMIL NADU POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
No.76, MOUNT SALAI, GUINDY,
CHENNAI-600 032.

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THE 6TH RESPONDENT - TAMIL
NADU POLLUTION CONTROL
BOARD.**

**Advocate for Respondent: TNPCB
Thiru. S. Sai Sathya Jith,
Advocate, Chennai.**

Date:02.03.2022.

Date of hearing on:03.03.2022